A Message from Kate Peake, President

“What in the world would we do without our libraries?” – Katharine Hepburn

Nowhere may that be truer than here in Patagonia, AZ. Last year, 4,730 people attended library programs and patrons circulated nearly 20,000 materials. Under the new leadership of Laura Wenzel, Library Director, the Patagonia Library has added even more innovative programming and diverse materials to keep the library meaningful for all age groups, from an online media streaming platform to coding and temporary tattoo workshops to eye-catching book displays. This is an amazing amount of work to pull off for a staff of three, with a limited budget, and a small group of dedicated volunteers. Our town is truly fortunate to have such an energetic, dedicated and innovative library staff. All of this is only made possible with your support.

We are continually in awe of our volunteers going the extra step to make our library efforts special, from organizing the Friends of the Library book shed and helping at the circulation desk to restocking the Little Free Libraries around town. We hope you are able to join us in 2020. Please contact the library to add your name to our volunteer list; make a financial donation today online, at the library, or by mail; donate your gently used books for our annual book sales; or buy a ticket to one of our upcoming events. I look forward to sharing book recommendations when I see you at the next library event. Happy reading in 2020!
**Meet Caitlyn**  
*Written by Caitlyn Coleman*

I am no stranger to the Sonoita/Patagonia/Elgin community, having lived in Sonoita for most of my life. I attended Elgin Elementary School and graduated from Patagonia Union High School in 2012. After high school, I graduated from the University of Alaska Fairbanks with a bachelor's degree in Communication and I plan to get my master's degree in school counseling, as well as continuing my love of art in the form of art therapy.

When not at the library, I work at PYEC as a mentor, helping to ensure that the youth of Patagonia have a safe place to socialize, learn to cook, create art, and do homework, as well as making sure that these amazing kids have a fair shot at life.

Since working at the library, I have learned the art of shelving, covering and taping books, politely arguing with a sometimes-stubborn copier and much more. My colleagues are helpful and supportive, and the volunteers are some of the greatest people I have ever met. I have been welcomed with open arms and have grown so much. Thank you all for making the library a home away from home!
Conference Musings
Written by Shannon Wright

This year’s national conference for the Association for Rural and Small Libraries took place in the beautiful city of Burlington. Daily sessions ensured there was always somewhere to be and something to learn, but at a pace that allowed time for attendees to breathe between. Presentations ranged from dry and procedural, like “Libraries and the 2020 Census,” to the whimsical and adventurous, such as “Did slamming your head against the wall help?”

A personal favorite was “Owning Your Brand: Marketing on a Budget,” where the steps and expenses involved in the re-branding and graphic design process of a rural library were organized and expounded. Many presenters held multiple sessions throughout the week, guaranteeing no one missed the presentation they wanted to attend due to the boring one the responsible adult in them felt they probably should. Overall, the conference was an enriching experience, and we can’t wait to apply the lessons we learned in Vermont here in our community.

The Library, Then and Now
Written by Sue Baz

This past Spring, Friends of the Library hosted an Open House to celebrate Patagonia Public Library on receiving national recognition as one of the best small libraries in America. It was also the perfect opportunity to honor the staff and give heartfelt thanks and warm wishes to Abbie Zeltzer, upon her retirement.

Shannon created a slide show which illustrated the remarkable transformation of the library through the years. Many of you may not be aware that the Library was once the Patagonia Hotel. As such, the Library is the oldest public space in Patagonia. The Patagonia Women’s Club opened the Library in 1957, deeded Cady Hall to the Town in 1989, and a restoration committee was formed in 1990 to renovate the building. Library users began to use the newly expanded space in 1996. In 2006, the Town Council approved a project to design a garden. With money from the Arizona Commission on the Arts two hand-wrought gates were created. Restoration Committee and Friends funds were used to construct a fence and wall, resulting in what is now the Legacy Garden.

There are 4 main funding sources for Patagonia Public Library. The Friends of the Patagonia Library is a large part of that funding puzzle. Your monetary donations, participation in fundraising events, program sponsorship, and used book donations and purchases help to keep our library growing and thriving. Thank you!
Thank you to our generous donors, program sponsors, and dedicated volunteers

Abbie Zeltzer
Arizona Native Plant Society
Axel Noden and Martin Mosko
Amanda and Christopher Bartine
Amaze Company Construction
Anita Clovesko-Wharton
Anne and Andrew Anderson
Anonymous
Ariana Raley
Ariel and Anu Krzys
Bea and German Quiroga
Barbara Ellis
Bergier Family Limited Partnership
Beverly Parker
Bia Pagani
Bob Kellock
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Katherine F. Peake
Kathryn Schrag and Martin Levowitz
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Kristina Tratiak and David Carley
Laura Miller
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Linda and Lane Coulston
Linda Cedoz Kozlowski & Joseph Kozlowski
Lloyd Lacey, Jr.
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Mandy Montanez
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Marilyn Majalca
Marilyn Miller and Steven Finch
Marion and Robert Hyland
Marne and Bradley Reneer
Martha Zybko
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Mary and James Spicer
Mary Jane Pottebaum & Tom Bartholomeaux
Maryanne Macy and Gregg Chance
Matt Brown
Molly Anderson and W. Morris Farr

Molly Phinny
Nancy Coyote
Nancy Hughes
Nancy McCoy
Natalie Mills
Paisley and Matthew McGuire
Pam Waters and Jerri Sober
Patagonia Market
Patagonia RV Park
Patsy Vandenberge
Phyllis and Richard Klosterman
Richard Kulibert
Robert Moser
Sandra and David Porter
Sara and Houston Cobb
Sarah and Charles Klingenstein
Saul Lieberman
Sue Baz
Susan and Cullen Crabbe
Suzannah Herron
Thomas Arny
Tom Cook
Toni Dorfman and John Gaddis

And anyone that we inadvertently missed. Thank you!

Donations made in memory of:

Barbara Kurtz
Cecie and Paul Dry
Charlotte (CiCi) Finley
Don Simmons
Jill Babcock
Paul Finley

In memory of Henry Krzys, the Friends of Patagonia Library will purchase children’s books in his name.